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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Akio Ishii et al. Group Art Unit;

Serial No.:

Filed: Irvine, CA 92614

For: CARBONACEOUS REFRACTORY MATERIAL

AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE

CARBONACEOUS REFRACTORY MATERIAL

November 26, 2001

Examiner:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to an examination on the merits of the above-identified application, please enter the following amendments:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 3. (Amended) The carbonaceous refractory material in the first claim, where the X-ray diffraction peak intensity ratio of the face (200) of the Ti₃O₅ to the face (111) of titanium carbide is 1 % or less.
 - Please add the following newly-drafted Claim 6.
- 6. (New). The carbonaceous refractory material in the second claim, where the X-ray diffraction peak intensity ratio of the face (200) of the Ti₃O₅ to the face (111) of titanium carbide is 1 % or less.

REMARKS

The amendments to the claims are to remove multiple dependencies.

Newly drafted Claim 6 is within the scope of the original invention and do not add any new subject matter.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview will help further the prosecution of this case, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the listed telephone number.

Very truly yours,

PRICE AND GESS

Joseph W. Price, Reg. 25,124 2100 S.E. Main St., Ste. 250

Irvine, CA 92614 949/261-8433 1

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Claim 3 has been amended as follows:

3. (Amended) The carbonaceous refractory material in the first [or second] claim, where the X-ray diffraction peak intensity ratio of the face (200) of the Ti₃O₅ to the face (111) of titanium carbide is 1 % or less.

New Claim 6 has been added.